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## Museums & Cultural Affairs

### The City of El Paso Public Arts Committee (PAC) Tuesday, October 9, 2012, 3:30 PM City Hall 2nd Floor Conference Room

#### MINUTES

1. **Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order at 3:30 pm.
2. **Roll Call: Members Present:** Melissa Barba-Espinosa, Ken Gorski, Floyd Johnson, Marina Monsisvais (Chair), Ray Parish, Jane Thomas, Elizabeth Thurmond-Bengtson.  
**Members Absent:** Rida Asfahani, Martina Lorey.  
**Others Present:** Pat Dalbin, Misty Castaneda, John Naber.
3. **Public Comment:** None.
4. **Approval of Minutes.** Chair asked for approval of the Minutes for the last meeting on September 11, 2012. Ken Gorski motioned to approve the minutes as presented. Elizabeth Thurmond-Bengtson seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.
5. **Discussion and Action on the Public Art Project for the Northgate Transfer Center and the Artist Selection Method.** Pat Dalbin began by explaining to members that the City of El Paso is planning to do a transit-oriented development, which is a walkable city with apartment complexes, condos, and larger homes, typically surrounded by a transit terminal. That way it is walkable, with transit that is part of the RTS to take you around town. This is a new development and this area was slated to be a transit-oriented center. The City purchased the property where the Northgate Mall was located and tore it down; as part of the plan, public art is included in the project. This project is being brought to the Public Art Committee to approve putting a public art project on the transit terminal development in the northeast. Marina Monsisvais asked about the budget and Pat replied it is a \$100,000 project for the transit terminal only, not for the entire project. Chair requested a motion. Elizabeth Thurmond-Bengtson moved to support 2% of this project being used for public art to be integrated into the facility; Ray Parish seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously. Elizabeth Thurmond-Bengtson made a second motion to select the artist from the forthcoming artist pool; Floyd Johnson seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.
6. **Discussion and Action on the Artist Selection Panel for the Pre-Qualified Artist Pool.** Pat Dalbin began by explaining to board members that this is the third time we have gotten a pre-qualified artist pool together. In the past, the Public Art Committee wanted to do the selection of the artists. There are usually about 500-600 artists and about 125 are shortlisted. We make sure there is a good pool of glass artists, mosaic artists, muralists, national artists, regional artists and local artists. The decision to be made is whether the Public Art Committee will do the selection or if an artist selection panelist should do the selection for the 2013-2014 pre-qualified artist pool. Pat reiterated that one member from the PAC has to sit on the artist selection panel, so someone will have to volunteer for that. Ray Parish asked how long the artist pool would be active and Pat replied it would be active for two years. Chair requested a motion. Ray Parish made a motion that the Public Art Committee select the pool; Melissa Barba-Espinosa seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.
7. **Discussion and Action on the Plan for the AAA Baseball Stadium to include Artist Selection Method, Artist Selection Panel, and Artist Budget.** Pat Dalbin began by reminding members there is a \$1,000,000 budget and the plan is to get a signature project for \$500,000 using an artist chosen from a national call. Then a regional call would go out for a \$200,000 project that speaks of the history of baseball in El Paso. Finally, we would showcase a local artist with a \$150,000 project that speaks of El Paso and our community. Each artist would sit down and work with the architect that designs the stadium to ensure cohesiveness, and fifteen percent of the budget would go towards administrating the projects. Chair requested a motion. Ken Gorski made a motion to accept the proposal as is with the 500/200/150

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breakdown and to use an artist selection panel for the artist selection method; Ray Parish seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.

**8. Public Art Status Report.** Pat Dalbin began by telling members that 'Harris Hawk' was installed yesterday and the signage is wonderful. The ribbon-cutting will be sometime during the first couple of weeks in November. We are waiting on Sun Metro to give us a decision on when we can proceed with hiring artists for the Alameda project. There was a meeting with stakeholders regarding the murals on EPPD headquarters, everyone is excited about the project and the artist has met with everybody regarding what will be on the panels and he will have the final design ready for the PAC's approval at next month's meeting. The Bataan Trainway fencing has been completed for Campbell and is almost complete for Oregon, in two weeks the one for Santa Fe will be complete. The railroad just notified us that this is their busiest time of year and they do not have enough people to help us as spotters to make sure nothing falls on the train; they want to put it on hold until spring. It will not be installed until after the Christmas holidays. All traffic circles are going as planned, Margarita Cabrera and Anna Jaquez have both started their projects, and Jose Cano is pretty much done.

**9. Adjournment.** Chair requested a motion to adjourn. Jane Thomas moved to adjourn; Melissa Barba-Espinosa seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 3:58 pm. Next meeting scheduled for October 16, 2012.

Approved for content by:  
Patricia Dalbin, Public Art Program Coordinator

Respectfully submitted by:  
Misty Castaneda, Administrative Assistant

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